

second subset of items **57**, and accessible on the default graphical user interface **51** for as long as is required by the user. This may be beneficial if an item in the second subset of items **57** is of particular interest to the user but they do not wish to act on it immediately. In such circumstances the user may want to ensure that the item remains in the default graphical user interface **51** until they have performed a function or action in relation to the item.

**[0114]** The method illustrated in FIG. 4B may be repeated automatically with no input from the user of the apparatus **1**. The method may be repeated at regular predetermined time intervals. The predetermined time intervals may be selected to ensure that the user receives new notifications shortly after the event had occurred.

**[0115]** FIG. 5 schematically illustrates a method of manually adding an item to the first subset of items **55** according to an exemplary embodiment of the invention.

**[0116]** At block **71** a notification **83** is displayed on the display **15**. The notification **83** may provide an indication to the user that an event associated with the apparatus **1** has occurred. For example, the notification **83** may notify the user that an incoming call has been received or that a message has been received by the apparatus **1**. In other embodiments of the invention the event associated with the apparatus **1** may be the generation of a reminder. For example a reminder may be generated in relation to information which a user has input and stored in the one or more memories **5** of the apparatus **1**. Such information may be stored using a calendar or diary application.

**[0117]** The notification **83** may be displayed automatically when the event occurs.

**[0118]** In some embodiments of the invention a plurality of notifications **83** may be displayed simultaneously.

**[0119]** At block **73** the processor detects a user input **73**. The user input may be, for example, actuation of a portion of a touch sensitive display **15**. Different functions may be performed in response to different user inputs. At block **75** the processor determines whether the detected user input was a first type of user input or a second type of user input. It is to be appreciated that the apparatus **1** may be configured to distinguish between more than two different types of input and that other functions may be performed in response to the detection of a third type of input. For example, in response to a third type of input the apparatus **1** may enable a function associated with the event to be performed.

**[0120]** If the detected user input is determined to be a first type of user input then, at block **77** the notification is added to a list of notifications. The list of notifications may be the first subset of items **55** as described above in relation to FIGS. 3 and 4A and 4B.

**[0121]** The first type of user input may comprise actuation of a user selectable item **85**. The user selectable portion **85** may be displayed on the display **15** with the notification **83**. It would be appreciated by a person skilled in the art that other types of input may be used in other embodiments of the invention.

**[0122]** If the detected user input is determined to be a second type of user input, then at block **79** the notification is removed from the display **15**. The notification **83** is not added to the list of notifications in response to the second type of user input. This enables the notification to be deleted so that the user does not have to view it anymore.

**[0123]** In some embodiments of the invention the second type of user input may comprise a flick input. The flick input

may comprise a user making a fast trace input on a touch sensitive display **15**. The user may make the trace input by dragging their finger or stylus along the surface of the touch sensitive display **15**. The flick input may begin in the area of the display **15** in which the notification **83** is displayed. It would be appreciated by a person skilled in the art that other types of input may be used.

**[0124]** FIGS. 6A to 6C illustrate another graphical user interface **81** according to embodiments of the invention. The graphical user interface **81** may be displayed on a touch sensitive display **15**.

**[0125]** The graphical user interface **81** comprises a first area **87** and a second area **89**. In the first area **87** information relating to a first application of the apparatus **1** is displayed. For example, in the particular embodiment illustrated in FIG. 6A the user is using the apparatus **1** to access the internet. A list of websites and service which the user may wish to access is displayed in the first area **87**.

**[0126]** Notifications **83A**, **83B** are displayed in the second area **89**. In the exemplary graphical user interface **81** illustrated in FIG. 6A to FIG. 6C the notifications **83A** and **83B** relate to different applications of the apparatus **1** than the application which the user is currently using. In other embodiments of the invention the notifications **83** may relate to the same application that the user is using. It would be appreciated by the person skilled in the art that the notifications **83A**, **83B** could also be displayed even if the user is not currently using the apparatus **1** to access an application. For example, the apparatus **1** may be in an idle mode.

**[0127]** In the exemplary graphical user interface **81** illustrated in FIG. 6A two notifications **83A**, **83B** are displayed in the second area **89**. The first notification **83A** notifies the user that a new voice mail message has been received. The first notification **83A** may provide an indication of the identity of the caller who has left the voicemail message. The second notification **83B** notifies the user that a message has been received by the apparatus **1**. The second notification **83B** may provide an indication of the identity of the sender of the message and also some information relating to the content of the message.

**[0128]** In FIG. 6B the user has made a user input by actuating the area of the display **15** in which the second notification **83B** is displayed. Two user selectable items **85A** and **85B** are now displayed on the display **15** with the second notification **83B**. In some embodiments of the invention additional information relating to the event may also be displayed in the notification **83B**.

**[0129]** The first user selectable item **85A** relates to a function associated with the notification. For example, the second notification **83B** relates to the event of an incoming message and the first user selectable item **85A** relates to the function "reply" and enables a user to control the apparatus **1** to send a message in reply to the received message.

**[0130]** The second user selectable item **85B** enables the user to control the apparatus to close the notification **83B** such that in response to a user input comprising actuation of the second user selectable item **85B** the processor **3** controls the apparatus to remove the notification **83B** from the display **15** and add the notification **83B** to the first subset of items **55** as described above.

**[0131]** Similarly in FIG. 6C the user has made a user input by actuating the area of the display **15** in which the first